United Nations TD/B/C.II/EM.5/1

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.: General
13 January 2015

Original: English

Trade and Development Board
Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission
Expert Meeting on Cyberlaws and Regulations for Enhancing E-commerce, Including Case Studies and Lessons Learned
Geneva, 25–27 March 2015
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Cyberlaws and regulations for enhancing e-commerce: Case studies and lessons learned
4. Adoption of the report of the meeting

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1
Election of officers

1. It is recommended that the expert meeting elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the meeting is reproduced in chapter I above. The expert meeting will have three days, from 25 to 27 March 2015, in which to complete its work. The provisional schedule of the meeting for the three days is attached as an annex to the present document. A detailed programme will be available one week before the meeting.

Documentation
TD/B/C.II/EM.5/1 Provisional agenda and annotations

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Item 3
Cyberlaws and regulations for enhancing e-commerce: Case studies and lessons learned

3. At its fifty-ninth executive session, the Trade and Development Board approved topics for single-year expert meetings in accordance with paragraph 17 of the Doha Mandate and paragraphs 208 and 209 of the Accra Accord (TD/B/EX(59)/4). One of the topics approved was on cyberlaws and regulations for enhancing electronic commerce (e-commerce), including case studies and lessons learned.

4. The single-year expert meeting on cyberlaws will offer a platform for countries to review legal frameworks, share experiences and learn from each other, not least with a view to creating cyberlaws and regulations that enhance e-commerce. The focus will encompass areas of consumer protection such as credit card and payment data protection and payment regulations. It is expected that the expert meeting will identify best practices concerning cyberlaws and regulations on e-commerce and recommendations on ways of enabling the regulatory framework, including cyberlaws, to enhance e-commerce.

5. The first informal session will consider progress in the area of e-commerce globally. Key legal issues that need to be addressed to facilitate e-commerce and make online interactions more secure will be identified. A special focus will be given to the following four legal areas: e-transactions; consumer protection; privacy and data protection; and cybercrime. The results of UNCTAD's research on the current state of e-commerce laws in these areas, highlighting progress made and remaining gaps, will be presented. Possible options for achieving effective implementation and enforcement of the relevant laws will be considered, drawing on best practices in addressing commonly known challenges to the preparation and enforcement of cyberlaws, based on UNCTAD's interaction with regional groupings in developing countries.

6. The second informal session will focus on the development of e-transactions and related legal issues for facilitating e-commerce. The need for compatibility in e-transaction laws to develop cross-border e-commerce, as well as variations in domestic contract laws across and within regions, will be considered. This session will also examine different electronic payment services of relevance to e-commerce and the legal implications of their use.

7. The third informal session will address the concerns of consumers, including with regard to cross-border e-commerce. The importance of relevant legislation and approaches in order to ensure that consumers receive equal protection offline and online, as well as specific consumer-protection challenges faced by developing countries, will be considered.

8. The fourth informal session will consider recent developments related to e-commerce with respect to data breaches and fraud, such as breaches of identification, credit card fraud and spam. Discussion will focus on ways to ensure confidence and trust in the use of the Internet through the enactment of legal and regulatory frameworks for protecting personal data and privacy and combating cybercrime. The complexity of cross-border enforcement and ways in which Governments and businesses can work together in these areas will be explored, as well as measures that may be taken by companies to keep consumer information secure.

9. The fifth informal session will address law reform efforts in various developing regions based on interaction between regional institutions, UNCTAD and various partners. The challenges faced by developing countries and regions in implementing compatible laws and the possible cross-regional lessons that may be drawn will be considered.

10. In order to facilitate discussions, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared an issues note on case studies and lessons learned regarding cyberlaws and regulations for enhancing e-commerce. In addition, experts are encouraged to prepare brief papers on the subject under discussion. These papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/EM.5/2 Cyberlaws and regulations for enhancing e-commerce: Case studies and lessons learned

Item 4
Adoption of the report of the meeting

11. The report of the expert meeting will be submitted to the Commission at its seventh session in 2015. The expert meeting may wish to authorize the Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chair, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the meeting.

Input from experts

Experts nominated by member States are encouraged to submit brief papers (approximately five pages) as contributions to the work of the meeting. The papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Experts are requested to submit papers to the UNCTAD secretariat as soon as possible, addressed to the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Analysis Section, Science, Technology, Innovation and ICTs Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland; fax: +41 22 917 0050; e-mail: ngozi.onodugo@unctad.org.

Annex

Provisional schedule of the meeting

Wednesday *25 March 2015*	*Thursday* *26 March 2015*	*Friday* *27 March 2015*
(10 a.m.–1 p.m.) **Plenary** **Opening statement** **Item 1** Election of officers **Item 2** Adoption of the agenda and organization of work **Informal session** **Introduction of item 3** E-commerce trends and legal challenges	**(10 a.m.–1 p.m.)** **Informal session** **Item 3** (*continued*) Consumer protection online	**(10 a.m.–1 p.m.)** **Informal session** **Item 3** (*continued*) Best practices in regional development of cyberlaws
(3 p.m.–6 p.m.) **Informal session** **Item 3** (*continued*) E-transaction laws	**(3 p.m.–6 p.m.)** **Informal session** **Item 3** (*continued*) Data protection and cybercrime	**(3 p.m.–6 p.m.)** **Informal session** Consideration of the outcome of the meeting **Plenary** (closing) **Item 4** Adoption of the report of the meeting